Coal Supply to Industries

4569. SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY:
SHRI RAM NAIK:
SHRI MAHESH KUMAR KANODIA:
Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been severe shortages in coal supply to industries in Western and Southern regions;

(b) if so, the details of the allocation made to major coal consuming industries in Gujarat, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Rajasthan during 1989-90, 1990-91 and upto June, 1991;

(c) the reasons for short supply during the above period; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to secure adequate supply of coal to avoid unemployment and loss in production?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Coal supplies to non-core sector industries during the first quarter of the year 1991-92 were affected in Western and Southern regions because more coal was being despatched on priorty to core sectors, mainly to the power sector. The details of despatches of coal from Coal India Ltd. (CIL) and Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. (SCCL) to consuming industries in Gujarat, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Rajasthan during 1989-90, 1990-91 and 1991-92 (upto June 1991) are given in the attached statements I and II.

(d) Ministry of Coal have since issued instructions to all coal companies to supply at least 50% of the linked quantity of coal to non-core sector industries. This is expected to improve the availability of coal to industries all over the countries including the States referred to above.